

Appl. No. 09/855,568
Amdt. dated October 4, 2004
Reply to Office Action of September 28, 2004

PATENT

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

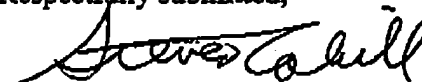
After entry of this amendment, claims 1-35 will remain pending in this application. Claim 36 has been cancelled without prejudice in response to the pending restriction requirement. Applicant reserves the right to pursue claim 36 in a divisional application.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven Cahill
Reg. No. 44,578

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 650-326-2400 Fax: 415-576-0300
SJC:djb
60323930 v1